

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 10827 140809Z

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CG-00 DOTE-00 L-03
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P 140800Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8794

UNCLAS TOKYO 10827

DEPARTMENT PASS USDOC

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ETRD, JA

SUBJECT: TRADE FACILITATION COMMITTEE; BOEING MARINE

REF: TOKYO 10511

SUMMARY: EMBASSY/MOT SHIP BUREAU PERSONNEL HAVE AGREED ON TEXT OF LETTER BELOW. MOT HAS AGAIN REQUESTED LETTER BE SIGNED BY COMMANDANT, USCG AND HAS STRESSED NEED FOR USCG TO ACT AS OFFICIAL SPONSOR FOR INSPECTION VISIT TO GUARD AGAINST POSSIBLE CHARGES OF IMPROPRIETY. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY AND MOT SHIP BUREAU INSPECTOR TANIGUTI HAVE AGREED ON DRAFT TEXT OF USCG COMMANDANT/MOT SHIP BUREAU DIR GEN SHAJIKI LETTER BELOW. TEXT SHOULD BE ADHERED TO VERBATIM IF POSSIBLE.

2. DURING DISCUSSION TANIGUTI AGAIN STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF LETTER'S BEING SIGNED BY USCG COMMANDANT AND NEED FOR USCG TO ACT AS "OFFICIAL SPONSOR" OF
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PAGE 02 TOKYO 10827 140809Z

INSPECTORS TRIP IN ORDER TO GUARD AGAINST ANY CHARGES OF IMPROPRIETY. HE SPECIFICALLY STATED THAT COSTS OF TRAVEL AND LODGING COULD NOT BE PAID DIRECTLY BY EITHER BOEING MARINE OR SUMITOMO TRADING.

3. TEXT OF LETTER IS AS FOLLOWS:

DEAR MR. SHAJIKI:

(PARA) WE ARE PLEASED TO LEARN RECENTLY THAT SADO KISEN KAISHA (SKK) OF NIIGATA, NIIGATA PREFECTURE HAS PURCHASED A SECOND JET HYDROFOIL FROM BOEING MARINE SYSTEM, RENTON, WASHINGTON FOR USE ON ITS NIIGATA-SADO ISLAND SERVICE. I HAVE ALSO BEEN TOLD THAT BOTH BOEING MARINE AND BOEING'S JAPANESE AGENT, SUMITOMO TRADING, BELIEVE THE PROSPECTS FOR ADDITIONAL BOEING JET HYDROFOIL SALES IN JAPAN ARE QUITE GOOD.

(PARA) I UNDERSTAND THAT REGULATIONS ISSUED IN SUPPORT OF JAPAN'S SHIP SAFETY LAW REQUIRE THAT MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT SHIP BUREAU PERSONNEL INSPECT BOTH A VESSEL AND ITS MAJOR EQUIPMENT IF THEY ARE TO BE USED IN JAPAN. BECAUSE OF THIS REQUIREMENT AND THE FACT THAT ADDITIONAL BOEING SALES WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE, I WOULD LIKE TO INVITE SHIP BUREAU INSPECTORS TO COME TO THE UNITED STATES IN LATE AUGUST/EARLY SEPTEMBER TO HOLD DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. COAST GUARD AND AMERICAN BUREAU'S OF SHIPPING PERSONNEL IN WASHINGTON STATE TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THE DIFFERENCES IN JET HYDROFOIL SAFETY STANDARDS AND INSPECTION PROCEDURES IN JAPAN AND THE UNITED STATES TO ESTABLISH A REASONABLE INSPECTION SYSTEM WITH A VIEW TOWARD FACILITATING FUTURE JET HYDROFOIL EXPORTS TO JAPAN. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO DISCUSS AND STRAIGHTEN OUT THE UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 TOKYO 10827 140809Z

DIFFERENT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND SHIP CLASSIFICATION SOCIETY IN BOTH COUNTRIES. WE WOULD HOPE THESE DISCUSSIONS WOULD LEAD TO A POSITIVE JUDGMENT WHICH WOULD FACILITATE FUTURE TESTING AND INSPECTION PROCEDURES OF JET HYDROFOILS BOUND FOR JAPAN. SINCE THIS REQUEST COMES AT A RATHER SHORT NOTICE, THE USCG IS PREPARED TO UNDERWRITE THE COSTS OF TRAVEL AND LODGING FOR THE TWO INSPECTORS WHO WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS AND INSPECTION AS REQUIRED.

(PARA) PLEASE GIVE THIS PROPOSAL PROMPT CONSIDERATION AND NOTIFY EITHER ME OR THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN TOKYO OF ITS ACCEPTABILITY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

...SIGNED) SINCERELY,
COMMANDANT, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD.
END TEXT.

4. LETTER SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO MR. M. SHAJIKI,
DIRECTOR-GENERAL, SHIP BUREAU, MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT,
1-3 KASUMIGASEKI 2-CHOME
CHIYODA-KU, TOKYO 100

WITH COPY TO E/C SECTION'S D. CLEVELAND.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY RECOMMENDS LETTER BE SIGNED BY
USCG COMMANDANT IF POSSIBLE. WE ALSO ASK THAT USCG
ACT AS OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF INSPECTORS' TRIP,
POSSIBLY ON REIMBURSABLE BASIS BY BOEING MARINE, TO
OVERCOME PROBLEM OF RECEIVING TRAVEL FUNDS DIRECTLY
FROM PRIVATE INDUSTRY. PARA 6 STATE 123511 MAKES
US HOPEFUL THIS CAN IN FACT BE DONE.

MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Drafter: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Secure: OPEN
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TAGS: ETRD, JA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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